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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: William John Curatolo, et al.

SERIAL NO.: 09/380,885

FILED: September 7, 1999

FOR: Delayed-Release Dosage Forms of
Sertraline

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Examiner: S. Sharareh
Art Unit: 1619

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is being deposited with the United States
Postal Service as First Class Mail in an
envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner
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By [Signature]

Dear Sir:

Response Under Rule 111

This is in response to the Office Action of December 26, 2000 in the
above-identified application, the term for response having been extended three
(3) months by including the appropriate fee and petition herewith.

In response to the Office Action, the Examiner is respectfully requested to
reconsider all rejections in light of the following comments.

Remarks

The Examiner continues to maintain the rejection of claims 1, 6, 9-11, and
14 over Ranade, US 4,803,076. The Examiner stated the following, in pertinent
part:

Applicant argues that Ranade teaches devices exhibiting delayed
release, and that Ranade's device exhibits first order sustained release of
sertraline. Applicant also argues that Ranade does not teach a controlled
release device that exhibits delayed release followed by immediate
release.

In response Examiner draws attention to the recitation of claim 1.
The instant claims are directed to a delayed dosage form comprising
sertraline and an acceptable carrier. There is no indication or limitations
for first or zero order kinetics or release of sertraline. Ranade discloses